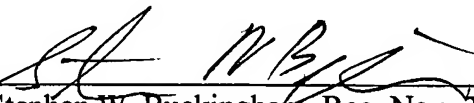


REMARKS

This amendment is submitted prior to examination of this application on the merits. Examination and consideration of the application as amended is requested and allowance of claims 1 through 12, at an early date is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

5/18/05
Date

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